



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

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**Your Reference:** HL76202/000/ASG  
**Application No:** GB 0013661.4

20 February 2003

Dear Sirs

**Patents Act 1977: Search Report under Section 17(8)**

I enclose two copies of my further search reports and a copy of the citations. This is in response to the three further Patents Forms 9/77 filed on 16 January 2003.

Yours faithfully

D.B. Pepper  
Examiner

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†Use of E-mail: Please note that e-mail should be used for correspondence only.



Application No: GB 0013661.4  
Claims searched: 53 and 54

Examiner: D.B.Pepper  
Date of search: 19 February 2003

## Patents Act 1977 : Further Search Report under Section 17

### Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Relevant to claims	Identity of document and passage or figure of particular relevance
		None

### Categories:

X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.

### Field of Search:

Search of GB, EP, WO & US patent documents classified in the following areas of the UKC<sup>v</sup>:

E1F

Worldwide search of patent documents classified in the following areas of the IPC<sup>7</sup>:

E21B

The following online and other databases have been used in the preparation of this search report :

WPI, EPODOC, JAPIO



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Application No: GB 0013661.4  
Claims searched: 50-52

Examiner: D.B.Pepper  
Date of search: 19 February 2003

## Patents Act 1977 : Further Search Report under Section 17

### Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Relevant to claims	Identity of document and passage or figure of particular relevance
A		WO 98/00626 A (Shell Int Research)

### Categories:

X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	B	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.

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Search of GB, EP, WO & US patent documents classified in the following areas of the UKC<sup>v</sup>:

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Application No: GB 0013661.4  
Claims searched: 55 and 56

Examiner: D.B.Pepper  
Date of search: 19 February 2003

## Patents Act 1977 : Further Search Report under Section 17

### Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Relevant to claims	Identity of document and passage or figure of particular relevance
X	55,56	US 5181571 A <sup>✓</sup> (Mueller et al) - see col 2, lines 18-43 and col 13, lines 56-66
X	55,56	US 4402372 A <sup>✓</sup> (Cherrington) - see col 2, line 64 to col 3, line 23; col 7, line 36 to col 8, line 23 and col 9, lines 44-65

### Categories:

X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
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&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.

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E1F

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